Mission Statement

Urged by the love of Christ, and in the spirit of our founder, Elizabeth Ann Seton, we Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati strive to live Gospel values. We choose to act justly, to build loving relationships, to share our resources with those in need, and to care for all creation.

Sisters of Charity Sponsored Ministries

Bayley – a continuing care retirement community that offers a full spectrum of health and wellness lifestyle options.

College of Mount St. Joseph – a coeducational, Catholic liberal arts college.

DePaul Cristo Rey High School – a Catholic, college preparatory high school for young adults with economic need.

Light of Hearts Villa – an assisted living facility for senior adults.

Seton Family Center – a counseling center servicing children and adults.

Seton High School – a comprehensive, Catholic high school for girls.

St. Joseph Home of Cincinnati – a residential facility for children and adults with severe mental and multiple physical handicaps.

Ethical Challenges of Leadership

By Sisters Maureen Heverin and Judith Metz

More than 70 board members and administrators from Sisters of Charity sponsored ministries responded to the Corporation Board for Sponsored Ministries’ invitation to attend dinner and Dr. Joanne B. Ciulla’s lecture, “The Ethical Challenges of Leadership,” Nov. 9 at the College of Mount St. Joseph.

Many attendees welcomed the opportunity to share and get to know others in a relaxed environment. Those from Bayley, for instance, were able to offer tips on their just-completed rebranding efforts to participants from St. Joseph Home, who are preparing to introduce their new brand early this year.

The lecture presented by Dr. Ciulla was part of the college’s Ethical Leadership Development Initiative. Enriched by her extensive academic and practical experience, both in the United States and internationally, the speaker offered her insights and examples in a relaxed and easy-to-understand manner. Using historical examples, she spoke first about factors that make leadership ethically challenging, especially mentioning temptations to control and use power to advance a leader’s self-interest even when that use would not be fair, ethical or just.

The path to downfall, she commented, is success that leads to an increasing isolation of the leader causing her or him to become deaf to others’ input and often to lose focus. The main problem arises, however, when the person begins to think he or she is an exception to the rules, and develops an inflated belief in their ability to control outcomes.

Antidotes to this pathway are: maintain a close physical presence with co-workers, be conscious of being part of something larger than themselves, and remember who they are and what they know (and don’t know).

Dr. Ciulla’s presentation generated positive energy among attendees and new insights into the strengths and challenges of ethical leadership. One participant noted, “There is no such thing as a perfect leader – we are all flawed.” It was a reminder of the need for humility for each of us.
To commemorate the years of service of the Sisters of Charity in Albuquerque, N.M., a memorial, “Angelitas de Caridad,” Angels of Charity, was dedicated Oct. 22, 2011. Sculptured panels around the base of the fountain depict the history of the Sisters from 1881 to the present, and two large wings reaching to the sky commemorate the Sisters’ work educating and caring for the people. A number of Sisters attended the dedication representing the Sisters of Charity.

The panels around the base of the Angelitas de Caridad sculpture in Martineztown Park depict the history of the Sisters.

Three Cincinnati Sisters of Charity along with 10 other Sisters of Charity and more than 80 other Sisters, Associates and volunteers from around the country participated in the St. Bernard Project’s Nuns’ Build in New Orleans, La. As in previous years, the Sister-volunteers stayed at the House of Charity, sponsored by the Sisters of Charity Federation. In addition to Sisters, groups of volunteers from Sisters of Charity sponsored colleges as well as women interested in religious life have helped rebuild housing devastated more than six years ago by Hurricane Katrina.

A small group of Sisters and Associates traveled to Guatemala in July to experience the Guatemalan culture and to participate in the ministry of health and education through the Daniel Comboni Community Clinic in Mixco where S. Sarah Mulligan lives and ministers. Reflecting on her experience, Associate Jamie Kelly wrote: “I had a life-changing experience on my journey to Guatemala. The grace of humility was given to me through my encounters with all of the Guatemalans I met. I witnessed so much poverty, and yet, the people were filled with so much faith and love for God and for our Holy Mother. They were radiant with faith.”

Mission Prayer

God, whose work of creation is never ended, but continues each moment of every day, help us to be free for growth of mind and heart and talent. Help us to be open to what we must do in working together as leaders in our community in changing times. Support us in our goals and initiatives to meet the needs of those we serve and to add to their quality of life. Guide us and give us new insights today. We ask this in Your name. Amen.